

CLAIMS:

1. A siderail for use with a patient support, the siderail being configured to move between a raised position and a lowered position, the siderail comprising:
a rail member; and
5 a rail extension coupled to the rail member, the rail extension being configured to move between an extended position relative to the rail member when the siderail is in a raised position and a non-extended position relative to the rail member when the siderail is in a lowered position.
2. The siderail of claim 2, further comprising a linkage, wherein the
10 linkage causes the rail extension to move between the extended and non-extended positions.
3. The siderail of claim 2, further comprising an actuator operably coupled to the linkage and configured to cause the rail extension to move between the extended and retracted positions.
- 15 4. The siderail of claim 3, wherein the actuator comprises at least one rotatably supported roller configured to engage an upper surface of the rail extension.
5. The siderail of claim 4, wherein the at least one roller is configured to roll along the upper surface of the rail extension as the rail member is moved into the raised position.
- 20 6. The siderail of claim 2, wherein the linkage is a clocking linkage.
7. The siderail of claim 2, wherein the rail extension is configured to move along a vertical axis relative to a lower edge of the rail member.
8. The siderail of claim 1, further comprising a linkage configured to permit raising and lowering of the rail member, wherein the rail extension is
25 positioned above a first end of the linkage when the rail member is in the raised position and the rail extension is below the first end of the linkage when the rail member is in the lowered position.
9. The siderail of claim 8, wherein the patient support includes an articulated deck, the first end of the linkage being rotatably supported by the deck,
30 and the second end of the linkage rotatably supporting the rail member.
10. A siderail for use with a patient support, the siderail comprising:
a rail member;
a linkage supporting the rail member for vertical movement between a raised position and a lowered position; and

a rail extension operably coupled to the rail member, the rail extension being configured to move downwardly in response to movement of the linkage in a first direction and the rail extension being configured to move upwardly in response to movement of the linkage in a second direction opposite of the first direction.

5 11. The siderail of claim 10, further comprising an actuator operably coupled to the linkage and configured to engage an upper surface of the rail extension as the rail member moves upwardly from the lowered position to the raised position.

10 12. The siderail of claim 11, wherein the actuator comprises at least one rotatably supported roller configured to roll along the upper surface of the rail extension as the rail member is moved into the raised position.

 13. The siderail of claim 10, further comprising a biasing device operably coupled to the rail extension and configured to bias the rail extension upwardly.

 14. The siderail of claim 13, wherein the biasing device comprises a spring operably coupled intermediate the rail member and the rail extension.

15 15. The siderail of claim 10, wherein the rail extension includes an upwardly extending guide member, and the rail member includes a tubular support configured to slidably receive the guide member.

20 16. The siderail of claim 10, wherein the rail member includes a frame member, at least one vertical blocking member coupled to the frame member, and at least one horizontal blocking member coupled to the frame member.

 17. The siderail of claim 10, wherein the linkage includes a first arm and a second arm positioned in spaced relation to the first arm, each of the first arm and the second arm including a first end rotatably coupled to the patient support and a second end rotatably coupled to the rail member.

25 18. A siderail for use with a patient support, the siderail comprising:
 a rail member supported for movement between a raised position and a lowered position;

30 a rail extension operably coupled to the rail member, the rail extension configured to move to a retracted position as the rail member moves to the lower position and configured to move to an extended position as the rail member moves to the upper position.

 19. The siderail of claim 18, wherein the rail extension is positioned below the rail member, the rail extension in the retracted position being positioned closer to the rail member than the rail extension in the extended position.

20. The siderail of claim 18, further comprising a linkage operably coupled to the rail member, the linkage configured to cause the rail member to move between the upper position and the lower position and to cause the rail extension to move between the extended position and the retracted position.

5 21. The siderail of claim 18, further comprising an actuator operably coupled to the linkage and configured to cause the rail extension to move to the extended position as the rail member is moved to the raised position.

22. The siderail of claim 21, wherein the actuator comprises at least one rotatably supported roller configured to engage an upper surface of the rail extension.

10 23. The siderail of claim 22, wherein the at least one roller is configured to roll along the upper surface of the rail extension as the rail member is moved into the raised position.

24. The siderail of claim 18, further comprising a biasing device operably coupled to the rail extension and configured to bias the rail extension to the retracted position.

15 25. The siderail of claim 24, wherein the biasing device comprises a spring operably coupled intermediate the rail member and the rail extension.

26. The siderail of claim 18, wherein the rail extension includes an upwardly extending guide member, and the rail member includes a tubular support configured to slidably receive the guide member.

20 27. The siderail of claim 26, wherein the tubular support includes a stop to prevent continued movement of the rail extension from the extended position to the retracted position.

28. The siderail of claim 18, wherein the rail member includes a frame member, at least one vertical blocking member coupled to the frame member, and at least one horizontal blocking member coupled to the frame member.

25 29. The siderail of claim 18, wherein the linkage includes a first arm and a second arm positioned in spaced relation to the first arm, each of the first arm and the second arm including a first end rotatably coupled to the patient support and a second arm rotatably coupled to the rail member.

30 30. The siderail of claim 29, wherein the rail extension is positioned intermediate the first and second ends of the first and second arms when the rail member is in the raised position, and the rail extension is positioned below the first

and second ends of the first and second arms when the rail member is in the lowered position.